

11 March 1977

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

SA/D/DCI/IC

SUBJECT : Admiral Turner's Cabinet Briefing

1. I am sorry to report that the NIOs have not been of much help in providing additional insight for the Cabinet briefing. They concur that your principal topics are well chosen. They had little to add in regard to what we are doing and can do for each of the Cabinet departments beyond those things that DDI is already preparing for you. Most felt that the Intelligence Community could be of far more assistance to policymakers (particularly in State and Defense) if they were given access to relevant documents and sensitive and unshared cable traffic and memoranda. Without this unique information, they are unable to provide alternative analyses of foreign government intentions.

2. Upon request, the NIOs provide NIEs, SNIEs, and special memoranda in all kinds of forms. They service particularly State, Defense, and Treasury. The FOCUS exercises, which the NIOs chair, have proved to be the most useful way to exchange information with a wide variety of policymakers. Again, however, the other Cabinet departments are rarely involved in the FOCUS exercises with the occasional exception of Commerce or Agriculture.

3. I am sorry that this isn't more helpful and would be glad to go back to the well to see what else we can develop. Perhaps if Admiral Turner can make the one point that would aid the NIOs, it is that the Intelligence Community can only be helpful to policymakers if policymakers share their concerns and relevant information with us.

A/EO/DCI/NI

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NOTE: [redacted] who has perhaps the widest contacts in agencies other than State and Defense, is out of town until Monday. I will check with him then to see if he has anything to add.

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